

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 23, 2003 (Paper No. 11). Claims 1 to 5, 9 to 11, 13, 14, 23 to 25 are in the application, of which Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 1 to 3, 5, 9 to 12 and 14 are being amended, Claims 23 to 25 are being added, and Claims 6 to 8, 13 and 15 to 22 are being cancelled, herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5 and 7 to 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,793,414 (Shaffer) and U.S. Patent 6,285,685 (Bum), Claims 6 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shaffer, Bum and U.S. Patent 6,076,076 (Gottfreid), Claims 12, 13 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shaffer, Bum and U.S. Patent 5,819,032 (de Vries), and Claims 14 to 18, 21 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shaffer, Bum and Gottfried.

Without conceding the correction of their rejection, Claims 6 to 8, 13 and 15 to 20 are being cancelled, which renders their rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the remaining claims are respectfully requested for the following reasons.

The present invention generally concerns printing from an internet based source onto a printer connected to an information processing device. More particularly and according to the present invention, a server receives a print job from an internet-based source, which includes data that is to be printed by the printer. The server obtains a print driver for the printer, renders the print job using the printer's print driver, and transfers the

rendered print job over the network to the information processing device, to which the printer is connected, for printout by the printer.

By virtue of this arrangement, a print job received from an internet-based source may be printed by any one of a number of diverse printers connected to information processing devices.

Turning to the specific language of the claims, Claim 1 defines a method for providing for printout of an internet-based print job at a printer connected to an information processing device, the steps of which are executed by a server connected to the plurality of information processing devices. In a receiving step executed by the server, an internet-based source a print job including data to be printed at a printer connected to an information processing device via a network. The server obtains a print driver for the printer connected to the information processing device, and renders the print job using the print driver, and then transfers the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device.

The applied art, namely Shaffer, Bum, Gottfried and deVries, is not seen to teach or to suggest obtaining a print driver for the printer, and rendering the print job using the obtained print driver before transferring the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device, to which the printer is connected. } }

Shaffer is seen to describe a system in which a television viewer uses the television connected to a set top box to request printing of an image on a printer, which is also connected to a set top box, over the cable network. See Figure 1 of Shaffer. In response to the television viewer's request, program control computer 16 retrieves the requested image, and a printer processor 24 prepares the digital image data for viewer's

printer. (See Shaffer, col. 3, lines 27 to 58.) Shaffer is seen to use the same printer processor 24 to prepare an image for all of the printers used in Shaffer. Shaffer is not seen to disclose or to suggest a server obtaining a print driver for the printer, and rendering the print job using the obtained print driver before transferring the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device, to which the printer is connected.

Bum is not seen to remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Shaffer. Bum is seen to describe a computer that accesses the internet backbone via a STB and a cable head end, such that the STB and CHE communicate using IP over an ATM network, and the CHE forms an IP packet for transmission over the internet backbone. See Figure 1 and col. 4, lines 23 to 60. Bum is not seen to disclose or to suggest a server obtaining a print driver for a printer connected to an information processing device, and rendering the print job using the obtained print driver before transferring the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device.

The remaining applied art, namely Gottfreid and deVries, has been reviewed and is also not seen to disclose or to suggest a server obtaining a print driver for the printer connected to an information processing device, and rendering the print job using the obtained print driver before transferring the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device.

Although the Office Action generally mentions it, at page 2, without applying it to any of the claims, U.S. Patent 6,525,831 (Evans, IV) has been reviewed and is also not seen to disclose or to suggest a server obtaining a print driver for the printer connected to an information processing device, and rendering the print job using the

obtained print driver before transferring the rendered print job over the network to the information processing device.

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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